45

CATWOMAN

HOWARD
BASRI
CIFUENTES
BELLAIRE

AGES 13+
DCCOMICS.COM

© & ™ DC.

AN EERIE MELODY HAUNTS THE GOTHAM CITY STREETS...
CAN THE DARK KNIGHT DISCOVER WHAT SINISTER FORCE IS PLUCKING THE STRINGS?

BATMAN DETECTIVE COMICS #1062

WRITTEN BY RAM V ◆ ART BY RAFAEL ALBUQUERQUE

"GOTHAM NOCTURNE" STARTS IN JULY

DARIO'S CAMERAS SAW MOVEMENT AT THE DOCKS, BUT *EIKO* AND THE *HASIGAWA CLAN* DON'T HAVE ANY DELIVERIES ON *THEIR* SCHEDULE. WHICH MEANS IT *SHOULDN'T BE HAPPENING.*

I TRUST THE WAY EIKO RUNS THE DOCKS, YAKUZA OR OTHERWISE. BUT IF I'M EXPECTING HER *KOBUN* TO BE MY BACKUP AND THEY'RE NOT THERE...

YOU'LL WANT *ME* AS BACKUP. HAPPY TO HELP.

ARE YOU AND EIKO... GETTING ALONG?

CATWOMAN

TINI HOWARD STORY
SAMI BASRI PENCILS
VICENTE CIFUENTES INKS
ROBBI RODRIGUEZ ART (PP 12-14)
JORDIE BELLAIRE COLORS
TOM NAPOLITANO LETTERS
JEFF DÉKAL COVER
JENNY FRISON VARIANT COVER
SOZOMAIKA 1:25 VARIANT COVER
JESSICA BERBEY ASSISTANT EDITOR
JESSICA CHEN EDITOR
BEN ABERNATHY GROUP EDITOR

WHAT'S THAT OLD SAYING? WE'RE... *THICK AS THIEVES.*

IN GENERAL, I'D PREFER TO KEEP HER AND THE *REST* OF THE MOBSTERS *MANAGED.* LET THEM HANDLE IT UNDER MY EYE, WHERE I CAN *SEE,* AND I'LL BE A BUFFER BETWEEN *THEM* AND THE *BAT.*

GOTHAM CITY. NOW.

ARE...*YOU AND HIM* GETTING ALONG?

...WE HAVE A STRICT *NON-AGGRESSION PACT.*

PARK THE BIKE AND MEET ME UP TOP.

...

...YOU'LL HAVE TO *LET GO,* VALMONT.

ONE *THOUSAND* PARDONS.

KRAK

The Bat and I...we're on a break.

No one wants to do anything they can't take **back.**

THIS MOTION AT THE DOCKS IS ONE OF TWO THINGS-- SOMEONE AVOIDING *EIKO,* OR SOMEONE AVOIDING *ME.*

AND IF IT'S *ME* THEY'RE AVOIDING...

...I ALREADY KNOW WHAT THEY'RE SHIPPING.

AND THERE THEY ARE--TURNING THE ENGINES OFF SO THEY CAN HAUL IT IN QUIET.

I CAN BARELY HEAR THEM--IS THAT ITALIAN...OR RUSSIAN?

IT'S ROMANIAN.

IBANESCU! HE SWORE HE'D STOP HIS *HUMAN TRAFFICKING* HABIT.

HIS PRETTY YOUNG *WIFE* DIDN'T LIKE IT...

...AND NEITHER DO I.

LISA, RIGHT?

MY NAME'S DIONNE. WE'RE GONNA BE OKAY--

...

MMMF!

AAH!

<--SHUT UP IN THERE!>

<YOU BE *QUIET.* *PAINTINGS* OF PRETTY WOMEN DON'T *TALK,* *HAHA.*>

<HEH. BUT THE *REAL THING* CAN DO A LOT OF THINGS THE *PAINTING* CAN'T, YES?>

THOK

HHK!

--YOU'RE RIGHT ABOUT THAT.

YOU PIGS BETTER GET THE #@$% OFF THIS DOCK, OR WE'LL SMEAR YOU ON THIS PAVEMENT, GOD HELP ME!

PISICI! IT'S THAT CRAZY @#$%#~% CAT!

AAAHH!

KRSSHHH

NO--

KRAK

HRGG--

YOU SNEAK *WOMEN* INTO *MY CITY* LIKE *PROPERTY?!*

I WANT TO MAKE SURE I *NEVER* FORGET A *FACE* LIKE *YOURS.*

SLASH

AAAAH!

SAY THE WORD, CATWOMAN, AND HE'S *NOTHING.*

NO.

KNOCK HIM *OUT* OR SOMETHING, THESE WOMEN NEED US.

AS YOU WISH.

bonk

ARE YOU TWO OKAY? I'M CATWOMAN, AND I WANT TO HELP. IF YOU'LL LET ME.

YOU'VE GOT TO GET OFF THIS DOCK, BUT I'LL HELP YOU GET WHEREVER YOU WANT TO GO-- METROPOLIS, CANCUN, *QURAC.*

WHAT'S *QURAC?*

I WANT TO GO *HOME.*

CATWOMAN!

〈GET HER BOYFRIEND OFF MY BACK!〉

UGH!

BRAKKATATATA

RUN!

BRRATATAT

GO LOCK YOURSELVES IN THE WHARF OFFICE--WE'LL COME FIND YOU!

OKAY!

RUN!

SHOULD I BE CAREFUL NOT TO *KILL* ANYONE, OR...?

--RIGHT NOW I DON'T CARE WHAT YOU DO.

JUST DON'T LET THEM GET AWAY.

VRRRMMM

BEEPBEEPBEEPBEEP

thunk

KABOOM

IT'S THE YAKUZA!

NO WAY--I CAN HEAR THEIR BIKES A *MILE* AWAY--

I NEED A BETTER LINE OF SIGHT--

IS THAT NOT A MOTORCYCLE I HEAR NOW?

IT'S NOT ONE OF THEIRS--

SON OF A *BAT.*

...I KNOW THAT BIKE.

HELLO, ROBIN.

AUUGH! CATWOMAN! IS THAT YOU?!

YOU'RE GONNA KILL US BOTH!

WHAT ARE YOU DOING?

GETTING AN EXPLANATION.

THAT'S A FINE WAY TO TALK TO THE PERSON WHO CLEANED UP THESE DOCKS WHILE YOU WERE AWAY AND CAME BACK JUST IN TIME TO SAVE YOUR TAIL!

SKREEE

YOU DID WHAT?

...THIS PLACE WAS CRAWLING WITH YAKUZA.

WHEN I SAW YOU THERE TONIGHT, I'D HOPED YOU'D FOLLOW ME AND WE'D REGROUP, SEE WHAT WE CAN DO ABOUT THAT BOAT, AND THEN--

IF YOU'RE DESPERATE FOR *DO-GOODING,* YOU CAN BEAT UP MUGGERS, CHASE DOWN CLOWNS, OR CLEAN OUT THE *GCPD.*

BUT *ORGANIZED CRIMINALS?* WHO HAVE LIVED AND DIED FOR THIS FOR *GENERATIONS?* DON'T TAKE WELL TO BEING TOLD WHAT TO DO.

WHAK

THEN HOW ARE *YOU* DOING IT?

YOU KNOW MY *CLAIM* HERE IS MORE THAN JUST SKIN-DEEP.

THEY REFUSE LAWS, THEY WANT *DEALS.* GIVE THEM AN *INCH,* LET THEM THINK THEY'RE A *RULER.*

...THEN HOW IS *DRAGOS IBANESCU* TRAFFICKING *WOMEN* UNDER *YOUR* NOSE?

BECAUSE I MADE THE MISTAKE OF TRUSTING MY *ALLIES.*

YOU MEAN *CRIMINALS* LIKE *EIKO?*

I MEAN *VIGILANTES* LIKE *ROBIN.*

THE YAKUZA WERE *KEEPING* THIS PLACE CLEAN...ON *MY* ORDER. IT'S NOT ALL KICKING ASS AND TAKING NAMES.

IF YOU WANT TO HELP--

VR MMM

--THERE ARE TWO WOMEN LOCKED IN THE WHARF OFFICE WHO NEED *REAL HERO HELP.*

THEY NEED TO GET HOME. CAN YOU DO *THAT PART,* TOO?

OF COURSE. I'M *HAPPY* TO DO THAT.

AND I'D REALLY RATHER YOU GET SOME *MEDICAL* ATTENTION--

--FOR THAT *BULLET FRAGMENT* IN YOUR *THIGH.*

--#@$%!

LATER...

YOU WOULDN'T BELIEVE HOW MANY APARTMENTS IN THIS CITY ARE DISUSED LEAGUE OF ASSASSINS SAFE HOUSES.

WITH THE WAY GOTHAM'S RENT HAS GONE UP? I SURE WOULD.

LEAGUE'S STILL NOT AS BAD AS THOSE ***RICH GUYS*** WHO BUY UP APARTMENTS JUST TO RENT 'EM OUT ONLINE--

--HISHHHH-- ***OW!***

SO SORRY.

THIS WAS NOT A DIRECT HIT, BUT A BULLET THAT RICOCHETED. MUST BE WHY YOU DID NOT NOTICE.

AND THE ***ADRENALINE,*** OF COURSE. THE WAY OUR HEARTS RACE.

YOU'D KNOW...

...YOU'RE... A KILLER.

HAHAHAHA.

YES, CATWOMAN! IT IS NOT A BASELESS ACCUSATION. YOUR FRIEND ONYX...

...SHE ***TOO,*** IS A KILLER.

...NOT ANYMORE.

VERY WELL THEN. NEITHER AM I!

SNIP

POUR VOUS. I RENOUNCE IT!

BE ***SERIOUS.***

HAHAHA, I AM. I AM!

ZRRBT ZRRBT

SELINA.

...BRUCE?

WHAT'S GOING ON, ARE YOU--

I'M FINE. JUST THINKING ABOUT YOU.

SEE BATMAN #125 FOR THE **HE SAID** TO THIS **SHE SAID**...AS THERE ARE TWO SIDES TO EVERY STORY.

WONDERING IF...EVERYTHING IS ALL RIGHT.

I'M GOOD.

KEEPING BUSY, YOU KNOW ME. AND...

...I'M SURE YOU'RE THE SAME? BACK IN GOTHAM...

Say something ***nice--***

FOREVER A FIRE TO PUT OUT.

*Oh, **well** done, Kyle.*

I HEARD THE ***ÜBER-RICH*** ARE BEING HUNTED.

HOPE YOU'RE WATCHING YOUR ***BACK.***

DON'T TELL ME YOU'RE ORDERING TAKEOUT...

...I *JUST* MADE COFFEE.

VALMONT, I AM ON THE PHONE!

BRUCE, I NEED TO--

IT'S OKAY.

I'VE GOT TO--

*Men are just **distracting** me...*

--so let's ask some Batgirls.

IT'S SO COOL THAT YOU'RE HELPING! I MEAN, I THOUGHT, WHEN YOU SHOWED UP...

...YOU WANTED TO STEAL STUFF.

THANK YOU, CASS, I'M LOVING YOUR HONESTY. KEEP IT UP.

OOP--STAY HERE, GIRLS. THINK I HEARD SOMETHING--

ORACLE?

DID YOU TRAIN YOUR TWO LITTLE BAT-MOPPETS TO DO SHTICK?

BATGIRLS WE ___ DOWN *

MOPPETS?

I LIKE IT.

*SEE BATGIRLS #8 FOR WHY ORACLE'S COMMS IS CUTTING OUT! --JESS C.

ORACLE, YOU'RE CUTTING OUT--I CAN'T HEAR YOU.

THE BATGIRLS ARE POSTED UP, BUT IT LOOKS LIKE ONE OF THOSE SAINTS, ASSISI, IS A BIT OF AN ESCAPE ARTIST.

ONE MOMENT PLEASE.

OH BATGIRLS? COME HERE SO I CAN SHOW YOU SOMETHING.

Thud

HEY CATWOMAN--IS IT TRUE YOU RAN INTO RED CLAW? THAT LEGENDARY MERCENARY?

I DID. AND YOU'D BE SURPRISED-- AFTER TALKING, SHE WAS RATHER COOPERATIVE.

RED CLAW'S A *SHE*? I KNEW IT!

YOU CAN'T JUST TIE HIS TORSO UNLESS HE'S ANCHORED TO SOMETHING.

TIE HIS FEET, TOO.

I THOUGHT I DID!

THEN DO IT *AGAIN.*

LISTEN, BATGIRLS. I'M HAPPY TO HELP, BUT YOU KNOW ME--AS MUCH GOODNESS AS THERE IS IN MY HEART, I DON'T WORK FOR *FREE.*

I'M HERE TO ASK WHAT YOUR BUDDY ROBIN'S BEEN FINDING IN THOSE *SHIPPING* CONTAINERS.

ROBIN SAID YOU CAUGHT THEM SHIPPING... *WOMEN.*

I'M PUTTING A *STOP* TO THAT. BUT IF THE WHOLE *BAT-CREW* JUST DESCENDS ON THEM, IT'LL BE BAD FOR *ALL* OF US.

DO YOU TRUST ME TO HANDLE IT, KIDDO?

...SO WHAT DO YOU NEED?

SOME SPECIFIC HELP. LATER, YOU CAN HELP ME BEAT THEIR ASSES, AND HELP THOSE GIRLS WHO WILL NEED A FRIEND LIKE YOU *SO BADLY.*

...THIS WAY.

OH, IS THIS ABOUT THE THING YOU SAW IN ROBIN'S RECORDS? THE ART STUFF?

DO GO ON. IBANESCU'S BEEN CLAIMING ART INVESTMENTS AS HIS MAIN IMPORT FOR YEARS. BLAMES IT ON HIS WIFE'S EXPENSIVE TASTES.

SEE, THERE--ON THE RECORD. THAT PAINTING NAME--*THE THREE GRACES* BY INFANTINO CARMINI.

ROBIN WAS ABLE TO GET IBANESCU'S SECURITY RECORDS.

AND HE SHARED THEM WITH YOU? THAT'S NICE.

NOT... EXACTLY.

GOOD GIRLS.

BUT THAT HAPPENS TO BE CASS'S *FAVORITE PAINTING* IN ALL OF GOTHAM.

SO SHE KNEW HE COULDN'T HAVE BOUGHT IT--IT'S STILL DOWNTOWN. MOVED TO THE BASEMENT-- BUT IT'S NOT IN HIS COLLECTION. WE'RE SURE.

THE TIMING IS TOO PERFECT THOUGH--IBANESCU MUST HAVE USED THE MOVE AS A COVER-UP...I SUDDENLY HAVE A DISGUSTING FEELING.

READ ME OFF THE NAMES OF SOME MORE OF THOSE PAINTINGS?

THE MAIDENS AT PLAY, SCANDINIOLI'S *WOMEN OF VIRTUE*, THE BALLERINAS--

--OH I'M GONNA BE *SICK.*

JUST WHAT I THOUGHT. HE'S USING THE ART TRANSACTIONS TO COVER THE PRICE OF THE *WOMEN.*

I'VE GOT SOME INVESTIGATING TO DO TO HANDLE THIS. YOU GIRLS TAKE CARE OF YOURSELVES. YOU EVER NEED ME--

YEAH, YEAH.

--OH, AND BY THE WAY, DON'T LET THAT ASSISI *CREEP* LEER AT YOU--THERE'S A CAMERA IN HIS HELMET.

LATER...

TURNS OUT POP TOMASSO MET WITH DARIO TONIGHT AT CAPULLO'S.

ARE THEY STILL THERE, DARIO?

NOPE, THAT'S WHERE YOU COME IN.

PRRRRRRR

THEY'RE AT MILK, THAT FANCY CLUB WHERE THE GIRLS DON'T STRIP, THEY JUST POUR YOU LIQUOR ALL NIGHT?

ALREADY ON MY WAY.

WAITAMINUTE.

DAD AND IBANESCU SAW YOU AT THE KITTY KAT CLUB. THEY'LL KNOW WHAT YOU LOOK LIKE.

YOU'D BE SURPRISED WHAT A LITTLE MAKEUP AND AN OUTFIT CHANGE CAN ACCOMPLISH.

YOU'RE COMING BACK HERE TO CHANGE? I DON'T KNOW HOW LONG THEY'LL BE THERE, CAT--

MILK

HIII. LATE FOR MY SHIFT.

MRN.

Don't try this at home. These women have etiquette and a strict set of rules.

One I'm coming **dangerously** close to violating, but...

SLAM

...I **promise** I'll bring the dress back.

CATWOMAN? HELLO?

DARIO...

THESE MEN DON'T PAY *ATTENTION.*

I WAS JUST THINKING YOU'D HIDE IN THE **VENTS** OR SOMETHIN'.

I CAN'T GET ANY GOOD INTEL THAT WAY, AND I ALSO CAN'T BE SEEN WEARING AN ***EARPIECE*** IN THERE, SO YOU'RE GOING TO HAVE TO GO INTO MY PURSE AND TRUST ME.

I CAN SCARE IBANESCU INTO COMPLIANCE IF I DO THINGS RIGHT.

YOU'RE GOING IN **ALONE?** CAT--

NOT ***QUITE.*** IF YOU WOULD MAKE ***ONE*** CALL FOR ME, SEE IF YOU CAN MAKE ME A DATE BEFORE I START MY ***SHIFT...***

...much to my dismay, I'll need a man on the inside.

YOU KNOW, I HAD MANY GUESSES AS TO HOW YOU WOULD LOOK UNDER THAT MASK.

THOUGH MORE THAN A FEW PATRONS CAN'T STOP TALKING ABOUT YOUR ***LEGS*** IN THAT DRESS. CAN'T SAY I BLAME THEM.

SHH. YOU'RE ONLY HERE BECAUSE I NEED AN EXTRA PAIR OF ***EARS*** THAT ISN'T ALSO ATTACHED TO A PAIR OF ***BOOBS.***

WHAT WERE THEY MEETING ABOUT? I DON'T DOUBT FOR A SECOND THAT ***TOMASSO*** WOULD WANT TO GET INTO THAT DISGUSTING TRAFFICKING GAME.

FROM WHAT I'VE BEEN ABLE TO ***LIP-READ,*** THEY HAVEN'T BROUGHT IT UP.

THE HOT TOPIC OF THE EVENING HAS BEEN ***ROMAN SIONIS.***

LEAVING SO SOON?

I'M NOT NEW AT THIS, VALMONT. SWEET-TALKING IS FREE.

SMART GIRLS GO WHERE THE TIPS ARE.

THERE ARE MANY BENEFITS TO THE ARRANGEMENT, I FIND. ROMAN SIMPLY HAS ACCESS TO THINGS THAT WE DO NOT.

I FIND THESE COSTUMED TYPES ***UNREASONABLE*** AT BEST...BUT I AM EAGER TO MEET THIS NEW ALLY ***BLACK MASK*** IS SO EXCITED ABOUT. I UNDERSTAND HE ARRIVES IN GOTHAM ***TONIGHT.***

HE WOULD CALL SUCH TALK INSULTING.

HAHAHA. TELL ME, IS THE GREAT ***BLACK MASK*** STILL HIDING AWAY CRYING BECAUSE HIS ***SPECIAL MASK*** GOT BLOWN UP BY CATWOMAN?

ALWAYS A ***WOMAN'S*** WAY, TO SMASH YOUR ***THINGS*** WHEN THEY ARE MAD.

OF ALL OF THE ***GIN JOINTS*** IN GOTHAM CITY--

--IT'S NOT WHAT IT LOOKS LIKE.

DICK GRAYSON. WHAT WOULD ***BRUCE WAYNE*** SAY ABOUT YOU SPENDING YOUR MONEY IN A PLACE LIKE THIS?

IF BRUCE GOT A SAY IN WHAT I SPENT MY MONEY ON, HALEY WOULDN'T HAVE SO MANY ***OUTFITS.***

I CAME LOOKING FOR ***YOU.***

YOU CERTAINLY ***DRESSED*** LIKE A YOUNG MAN ABOUT TO SEE HIS ALMOST-STEPMOTHER.

DON'T MAKE THIS WEIRD. I WAS ON A DATE WITH BABS.

MUST'VE BEEN A *SNOOZE*-- SHE WAS RUNNING OPS ON THE RADIO WITH *ME AND THE BATGIRLS* EARLIER TODAY.

FIRST OF ALL--THAT TOOK LIKE *FIVE MINUTES.* SECOND-- *GREAT JOB* ON THAT HAIR AND MAKEUP, I ALMOST DIDN'T *RECOGNIZE* YOU.

I NEED TO TELL YOU SOMETHING. ONE OF THE GUYS I KEEP MY EYE ON...HE SEEMS TO BE WORKING FOR ONE OF THE GUYS *YOU* KEEP AN EYE ON.

WHERE ARE WE GOING?

I'M WORKING. YOU AND YOUR LITTLE BROTHERS CAN QUIT FOLLOWING ME!

WHAT AM I SUPPOSED TO DO IF I THINK YOU'RE IN DANGER? SOCK SOME MONEY AWAY FOR YOUR HOSPITAL BILLS?

THAT WOULD BE VERY KIND, ACTUALLY.

NOW EXCUSE ME WHILE I GO HANDLE HOW BADLY YOU AND YOUR LITTLE FAMILY KEEP *COMPROMISING* MY WORK.

LOCKER ROOM

BETTER NOT TRY AND FOLLOW ME IN HERE.

THE BOTTLE GIRLS WOULD GET...*WAY* TOO EXCITED.

SELINA, *WAIT.*

The kids in Alleytown are too pure. Onyx is **too righteous.** The **Bat-kids** are too noble.

I'm not **changing my mind** about help. I just know what I am. That's why the only people I'll let help me...

...are the ones I'm not scared about bringing down with me.

Sometimes that means I'm all alone.

INCOMING MESSAGE FROM **NIGHTWING.**

...but sometimes even the **bad guys** surprise you with their own loyalty.

VALMONT, WHAT ARE YOU STILL DOING HERE?

I WANTED TO HELP. BUT I DID NOT WANT TO ***CHASE*** YOU, OR DO WHAT THOSE BOYS HAD DONE.

SO I SIMPLY... WAITED.

...WHERE I KNEW YOU COULD FIND ME.

GO. I'LL DIRECT YOU.

PLAY MESSAGE--

CATWOMAN, IT'S NIGHTWING. I JUST WENT AHEAD AND SENT YOU SOME COORDINATES TO CHECK OUT BECAUSE YOU RAN OUT ON ME, AND I WAS JUST TRYING TO HELP. MAYBE I HAVE TO DO THAT AT A DISTANCE.

YOU KNOW... I SHOULDN'T SAY THIS, BUT AFTER...THINGS **CHANGED** BETWEEN YOU AND BRUCE, HE TOLD ME YOU SAID YOU WERE WORRIED LOVE WOULD **SOLVE** HIM SOMEHOW. LIKE HE WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO BE THE BAT IF HE HAD YOU.

BUT YOU KNOW HOW HE IS. **NOTHING'S** EVER REALLY GONNA SOLVE THAT IN HIM. NOT THE **LOVE** OF A WOMAN.

AND THE LOVE OF A **MAN** WOULDN'T SOLVE IT FOR YOU, EITHER. SO...I DON'T KNOW WHY YOU RAN AWAY LIKE THAT...FROM SOMEONE WHO **WANTS** TO BE YOUR FAMILY.

AND I'M SORRY IF THAT MAKES ME SOUND LIKE A JERK.

I WISH THINGS HAD WORKED OUT, BUT THERE ARE **NO HARD FEELINGS** ON MY END.

ANYWAY, I WAS LOOKING INTO ROBIN'S SHIPPING RECORDS FROM THE DOCKS AND IT SEEMED LIKE **IBANESCU** WAS GETTING IN SOMETHING **BIG** LAST NIGHT SO I WENT DOWN TO CHECK IT OUT MYSELF, AND--

--WHAT DO YOU KNOW, IT WAS ONE OF THE GUYS I KEEP AN EYE ON--

--AMYGDALA!

RAAHGH!

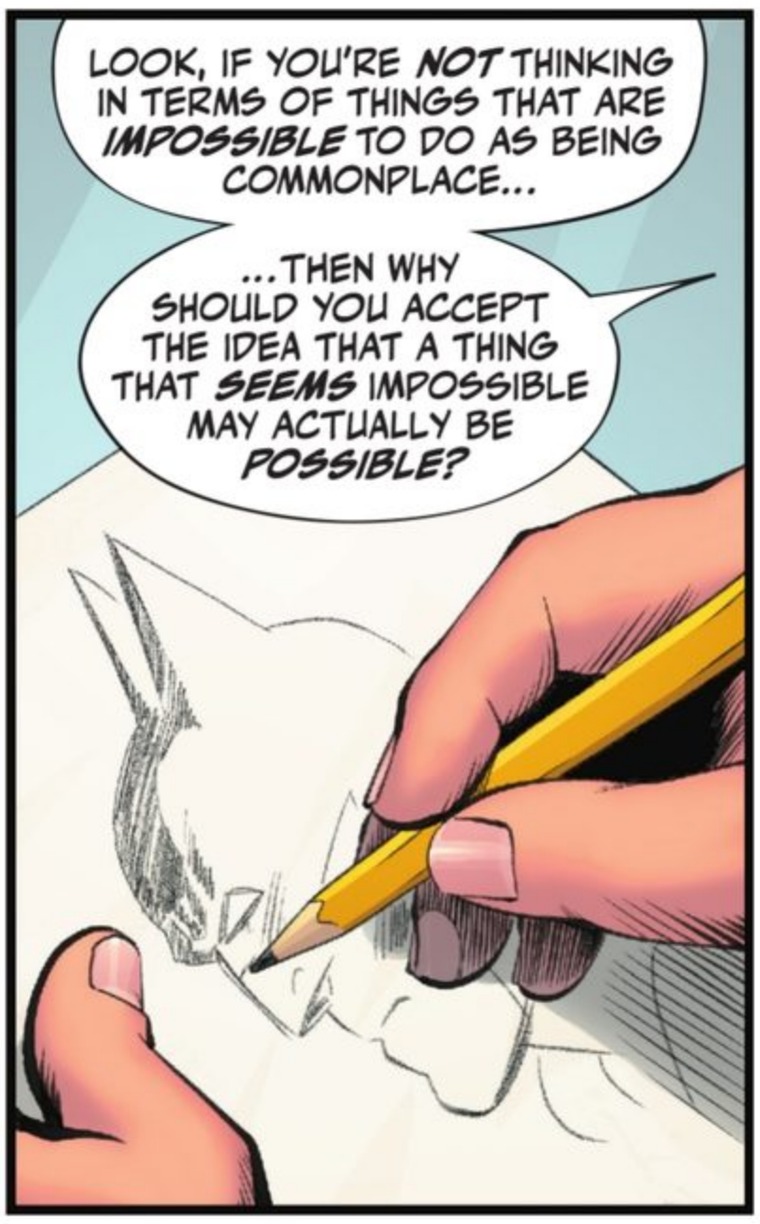
ENJOY A DRINK, MY FRIEND!

TO A FANTASTIC NEW COLLABORATION BETWEEN THE *MEN OF GOTHAM!*

NEXT: SHUT THE CLUB DOWN!

"While he was with us, Neal was often referred to as a living legend. Let's all take solace from the knowledge the legend will live on."

–Cary Bates


LOOK, IF YOU'RE *NOT* THINKING IN TERMS OF THINGS THAT ARE *IMPOSSIBLE* TO DO AS BEING COMMONPLACE...
...THEN WHY SHOULD YOU ACCEPT THE IDEA THAT A THING THAT *SEEMS* IMPOSSIBLE MAY ACTUALLY BE *POSSIBLE?*

"Neal was like a father to me on so many levels...Neal, and that whole experience, taught me so much about comics, drawing--life, really. I owe him and the family a debt that can never be repaid."

–Denys Cowan

SIR, I JUST WANTED--
AFTER *ALL,* ALL NEW IDEAS SPRING FROM ONE MIND, ARE DISAGREED WITH BY *EVERYBODY* ELSE, AND ARE *FINALLY* ACCEPTED BY EVERYBODY WITH *THIS* STATEMENT...
"HOW COULD WE POSSIBLY *HAVE* THOUGHT IT WAS ANY *DIFFERENT?"*

"Neal was a true creator's rights warrior. He had the power and the ability to bring notice and to cause change, and he wielded both with the same massive skills he used as a storyteller. He's not just a legend, he's one of the most important people in the history of the comics medium."

–Mike Gold

IT'S JUST YOU--
FOR AN INDIVIDUAL TO THINK *THAT* WAY, HE HAS TO HAVE *EXERCISE.*
YOU'RE NOT JUST GOING TO *SUDDENLY* COME UP WITH A TOTALLY *NEW* IDEA AND THEN DEFEND IT WITH YOUR *LIFE.*

"All of you who had their artwork returned or collected an incentive or royalty since the '80s should have sent Neal Adams a thank-you card at the very least. He fought long and hard for what many take for granted these days."

–Larry Hama

YOU HAVE TO HAVE *OTHER* PEOPLE CREATING AND *ASSURING* YOU THAT IT'S *OKAY.*
OTHER PEOPLE *MUCKING* WITH CONCEPTS THAT *SEEM* CRAZY, BUT ARE *DEFENDABLE* ON A CERTAIN LEVEL.
IN ORDER FOR *YOU* TO EXERCISE *YOUR* IMAGINATION.

"Neal Adams drew like a Renaissance master...but Neal's impact goes well beyond his art. His fight for Siegel and Shuster was a watershed act that put the value of creators front and center so that no artist's rights could ever be ignored."

–Jenette Kahn

THE EXERCISE OF THE IMAGINATION IS A DIFFICULT THING TO DESCRIBE BECAUSE IT DOESN'T SEEM LIKE A REAL THING.
HOW DO YOU EXERCISE IMAGINATION?

"Neal changed the game. He made himself a bridge between generations. He forced the industry to pay tribute to his elders and taught my generation to respect ourselves."

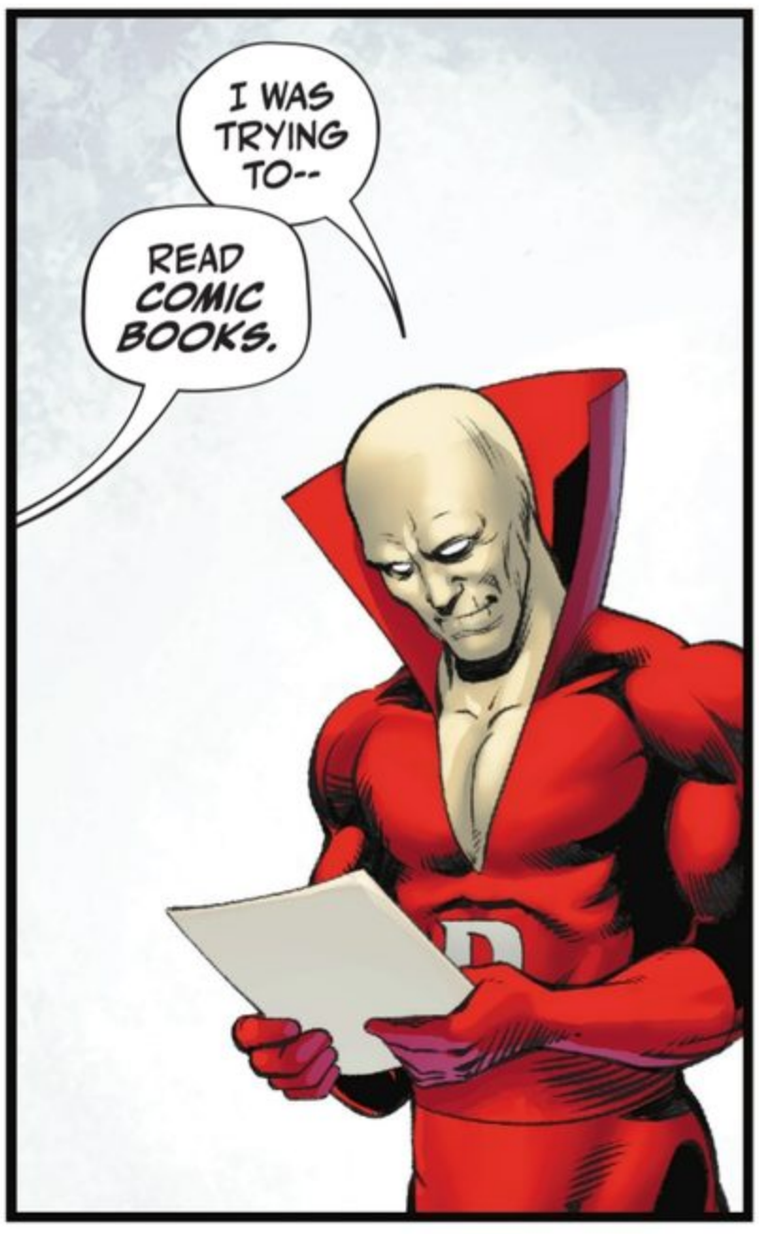
–Frank Miller

"With his approach to dynamic representationalism, Neal could do it all--draw powerful action scenes and relatively quiet shots that made you soak in every detail. He left us a huge body of inspirational work to appreciate and learn from."

–Carl Potts

"Neal Adams was--is--quite simply one of the most talented and most influential artists in the history of the comic book industry."

–Roy Thomas



"No artist ever mattered more to DC than Neal Adams: he revitalized key characters, set stylistic and storytelling models, introduced a bevy of brilliant young talents to our pages, argued with us as our conscience, and drew some of the most iconic images of the 20th century."

–Paul Levitz

"Let others expound on Neal's exquisite artwork--my mind turns back to these fond memories of working with Neal."

–Terry Austin

"I will always be grateful for the dramatic way Neal improved life for my family. He was a great man."

–Laura Siegel Larson

"I'd think, 'How can I mess up the inks in just the right way so Neal and I will be able to talk for a few more hours?' In fairness, he also called when he really liked something too. Gonna miss those talks."

–Bill Sienkiewicz

"Neal taught me more than how to master nuances of gesture and expression--or how to stand up for myself. He showed me how to stand up and speak out for the causes I believe in."

–Jon Bogdanove

"Neal's work has influenced every image I have created and continues to be the gold standard I aspire to when I put pencil to paper."

–Jim Lee

"Neal Adams is...a force majeure that few can equal and that history will remember. His work here is done."

–Michael Golden

The Endless Line

WRITTEN BY *TOM KING* • DRAWN BY *JOSH ADAMS*
COLORED BY *HI-FI* • LETTERED BY *CLAYTON COWLES*
EDITED BY *BRITTANY HOLZHERR*

NEAL ADAMS'S DIALOGUE QUOTED FROM *THE COMICS JOURNAL* #72, MAY 1982.

FOR MORE QUOTES REMEMBERING NEAL, PLEASE VISIT WWW.DCCOMICS.COM/REMEMBERINGNEALADAMS

JUSTICE GETS AN UPGRADE

DC MECH

© & ™ DC.

Written by
KENNY PORTER

Art by
BALDEMAR RIVAS

6 issues

A brave new mechanized world begins in July

DC NATION INTERVIEW

DWAYNE JOHNSON

DC LEAGUE OF SUPER-PETS™

What is it like to star in the first animated movie about the Justice League's pets?

The idea that this has never been done before in cinema is pretty remarkable when you think about it. What kind of pets would your favorite superheroes have? From Superman to Wonder Woman to Batman to Flash to Green Lantern. When you think about the players from Warner Bros. to DC, the love that we have at Seven Bucks Productions for superheroes and animation…I jumped at the opportunity. I can tell you with great confidence that *DC League of Super-Pets* delivers.

How would you define a Super-Pet?

It's not like these pets were born with a silver bone in their mouth, so to speak. They all have unique personality traits, and they learn through their relationships that there is a world of possibility for them.

What is the scope of this movie like?

There's big spectacle and huge fight scenes. The animation has a really unique quality that feels almost vintage, yet still very cool and modern. Also, our cast is just all-stars across the board. I'm decently funny in the movie, but everyone else is just home run after home run.

What's at the core of this movie?

Ultimately the relationship between Krypto and Ace, who's played by Kevin Hart, is the anchor point of this film. It's about the lessons that they teach each other, which honestly is not too dissimilar to the relationship I actually have with Kevin. You can feel the authenticity and earnestness in our relationship onscreen as the two Super-Pets.

In character as Krypto, can you describe your ideal human?

About 6'4", 265 pounds, brown, bald, tattooed, can raise an eyebrow. You thought I was going to say Superman, right?

DC LEAGUE OF SUPER-PETS™

In theaters beginning July 29!

DC COMICS MARIE JAVINS Editor-in-Chief, DC Comics ANNE DePIES Senior VP – General Manager JIM LEE Publisher & Chief Creative Officer DON FALLETTI VP – Manufacturing Operations & Workflow Management LAWRENCE GANEM VP – Talent Services ALISON GILL Senior VP – Manufacturing & Operations JEFFREY KAUFMAN VP – Editorial Strategy & Programming NICK J. NAPOLITANO VP – Manufacturing Administration & Design NANCY SPEARS VP – Revenue

CATWOMAN 45. September, 2022. Published monthly by DC Comics, 2900 W. Alameda Avenue, Burbank, CA 91505. GST # is R125921072. Copyright © 2022 DC Comics. All Rights Reserved. All characters featured in this issue, the distinctive likenesses thereof, and related elements are trademarks of DC Comics. The stories, characters, and incidents mentioned in this magazine are entirely fictional. DC Comics does not read or accept unsolicited submissions of ideas, stories, or artwork. For Advertising and Custom Publishing contact dccomicsadvertising@dccomics.com. For details on DC Comics Ratings, visit dccomics.com/go/ratings.

SON OF ULTRON

"THIS FAN... THIS MONSTER!"